Marcus, Ralph, Prof.

[Columbia University]

April 14, 1936

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Professor Ralph Marcus,
533 West 112th Street,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Professor Marcus:

I think at one time you told me that you knew some Ethopic. I am stuck on one or two dates and words on coins.

As you know, most of Menelick's coins were stuck at Paris but he also struck some at Addis Ababa. Those struck at the latter place all have the date I am puzzled by the last character which should be the diget, which is clearly "za". Could it possible be another form for "nine"? Also the date on the last Haile Selassie coins apparently is given in our era rather than theirs. The fourth character which should be their "20" or "30" I make out as a "30" In other words, the date is 1933. Also on the coin is a new value that I cannot work out, which I make to be

I also have another coin of which I am enclosing photographs that is a puzzle. I think the characters are some form of Ethiopic. I make out a few of them as possibly these characters. Can you make out any of them?

If you cannot work out these dates, do you know anybody whom I can call upon?

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks
Encl.